



Bulletin

Helping Ohioans Move, Expanding Choice

EDUCATION & INSPIRATION: THIRD ANNUAL HOME CHOICE CONFERENCE

Nearly 300 advocates, transition coordinators, case managers, and others attended the third annual HOME Choice Conference in Columbus on November 5, 2015. The conference focused on the journey of empowerment for individuals with disabilities since the inception of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) 25 years ago.

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The conference was presented by the HOME Choice Consumer Advisory Council, in association with the Ohio Department of Medicaid. Shelley Papenfuse, Conference Chair, and Rajai Saleh, Conference Coordinator, provided opening remarks. Josh Rogers of the U.S. Department of Justice's Civil Rights Division followed and advocated for community integration through enforcement of the Olmstead decision and the ADA.

The afternoon plenary session featured Al Condeluci, CEO of Community Living and Support Services (CLASS), who spoke about the challenges and opportunities individuals face when transitioning back to the community. Ohio Medicaid Director John McCarthy provided an overview of Ohio's success and continuing efforts in transforming the state's long-term care systems and Kim Donica, Chief of the Bureau of Long-Term Care Services and Supports, introduced a new HOME Choice video highlighting powerful stories of three individuals who transitioned from a facility to the community.



Rajai Saleh, Conference Coordinator



Director John McCarthy provides Ohio Medicaid updates

Story continues on Page 2.

Attendees listened attentively and participated eagerly in breakout sessions, which included the following topics: the future of HOME Choice; Ohio Benefits Long-Term Care; consumer direction; social capital; fair housing; ADA in Ohio; transportation; Ohio Medicaid eligibility impacts; the Ohio 811 project rental assistance program; and fraud, crime prevention, safety and consumer protection.

We are already looking forward to next year's conference, slated again for November. Expect another great program, with new formats such as roundtable discussions. More details will be available next summer and we hope to see you there!

Highlights from the Third Annual HOME Choice Conference



Registration went smoothly!



Laura Leach and Kim Donica, Ohio Department of Medicaid



HOME Choice Advisory Council



After a successful transition home, Doris Pridemore attends with her daughter, Gayle



Kathy Foley, Services for Independent Living, and Jerrie O'Rourke, CareStar



Plenary and breakout speaker Al Condeluci, CLASS, and HOME Choice Advisory Council Chair, Shelley Papenfuse



Watch the new video, featuring Doris, online:

medicaid.ohio.gov/HomeChoice.aspx

FALL PROVIDER TRAINING SESSIONS: BUILDING COLLABORATION & COORDINATION

By T. Brock Robertson, HOME Choice Provider Administrator and Carol Schenck, HOME Choice Provider Oversight and Compliance Manager

Throughout October and early November, HOME Choice staff offered training sessions in Cincinnati, Columbus, Akron, Cleveland and Toledo. More than 250 providers, including transition coordinators, pre-transition case managers, HOME Choice case managers, and waiver case manager supervisors, attended the trainings.

A Social Security Administration (SSA) representative presented at each one of the trainings, and providers learned about social security benefits and the procedures to follow to ensure an individual has access to his or her Social Security Income upon discharge from a facility. The SSA representative also provided a direct link for providers to use for future problem resolution.

Additional training topics included the new HOME Choice Transition Coordinator Provider Manual, the HOME Choice Housing Manual, protection from harm, transitioning infant and youth populations, and the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services' program Recovery Requires a Community.

These trainings offer an opportunity for HOME Choice staff to connect with the provider network around the state. The providers' dedication and commitment to HOME Choice contributes greatly to the program's success, and ultimately benefits those Ohioans that transition through the HOME Choice program.

PROGRAM ACTIVITY AS OF 12/31/2015

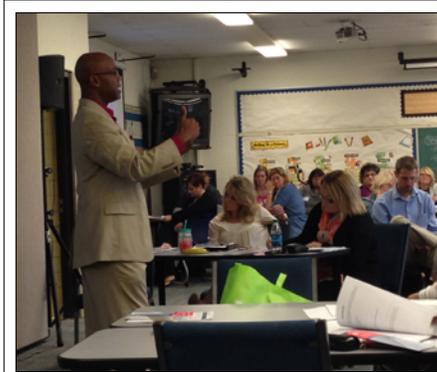
Program Area	Indicator	Statistic
Program Transitions	Current Number of Enrollees	1,473
	New To-Date in 2015	1,607
	Total Transitions To-Date (since 2008)	7,393
Current Transitions By Age Group	Children (Birth to 21)	27.4%
	Adult (Ages 22-59)	43.1%
	Elderly (Ages 60+)	29.5%
Waiver Activity: Proportion of Current Transitions	On Waivers	40.9%
	Non-Waiver	59.1%
Candidates in the Pipeline	Applications Received or Approved (not yet assessed)	1,466
	Assessed and in Pre-Transition Stage	28



Transition coordinators Josephine Brown (left) and Shannon Monyak (right) with Brock Robertson, HOME Choice Provider Administrator (center).



HOME Choice Community Living Administrator Jessica Hawk hands training materials to Tiera Rachel, CareStar Pre-Transition Case Manager Supervisor.



Robert Fenn, Public Affairs Specialist, Social Security Administration, explains SS benefits to providers.

HOME Choice Success Stories

In each issue, we feature the stories of Ohioans who have transitioned from long-term care facilities to their own homes.

OVERCOMING OBSTACLES: BOB'S STORY

By Cheryl Probst, HOME Choice Case Manager, CareStar



When Bob moved to Ohio about five years ago, he was a hardworking and healthy man living independently in a Dayton apartment. However, in July 2014, Bob had two strokes on the same day, almost back to back, and was in the hospital for three weeks. His life was dramatically different when he was transferred to a nursing facility for rehabilitation and therapy. He kept his apartment during this time, although he now relied on a wheelchair because he had little to no use of his left arm and leg.

With support from his HOME Choice team, Bob later moved into an accessible unit in his apartment building. Kathy was able to use funding through HOME Choice to hire movers to facilitate the relocation, set up his new apartment, and assist Bob with obtaining an electric wheelchair. In his new apartment, Bob enjoys the safety and comfort of a wheelchair-friendly environment, including a roll-in shower, lower counter tops, wider doorways and tile floors. He continues to receive ongoing support through other HOME Choice services, such as community support coaching and counseling through Easter Seals.

Bob reports that his biggest success has been getting out in the community on his own, and not letting his wheelchair hold him back from going anywhere and everywhere with speed and confidence.



Bob reports his biggest success has been getting out in the community on his own.

After connecting to the HOME Choice program, Bob worked with Kathy Eifert, a transition coordinator from Goodwill Easter Seals Miami Valley. He described Kathy as supportive and instrumental in his successful discharge from the nursing facility, and with her help, he was able to secure household items and clothing before returning home. His case manager began working side by side with Bob to ensure that his success and independence continued in the community.

CONTRIBUTING ORGANIZATIONS

Access Center for Independent Living
Achievement Centers for Children
Advocacy and Protective Services (APSI)
AARP
American Association of Service Coordinators
Amerigroup
Assistive Technology of Ohio (AT Ohio)
Autism Society of Ohio
Bittersweet Inc.
Brain Injury Association of Ohio
Brethren Care Village
Buckeye Community Health Plan
Cerebral Palsy Association of Ohio
Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
Creative Housing Corporation
Definitive Home Health Care
Delaware Creative Housing
Disability Housing Network
Disability Rights Ohio
Easter Seals of Ohio
Episcopal Retirement Homes, Inc
Family Services Council of Ohio
Good Samaritan Hospital
Greater Dayton TRA
Heritage Day Health Centers
Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Heritage Health Care Services
Housing Leadership Institute
Leading Age Ohio

Legislative Services Commission
Linking Employment, Abilities and Potential (LEAP)
Long Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Program
Mercy Saint John's Center
Miami Valley In-Ovations, Inc.
National Alliance on Mental Illness of Ohio
National Church Residences
Ohio Academy of Nursing Homes
Ohio Advocates
Ohio Alliance for Direct Support Professionals
Ohio Assisted Living Association
Ohio Association Adult Caregivers
Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities
Ohio Association of County Boards of DD
Ohio Association of Superintendents of County Boards of DD
Ohio Board of Regents
Ohio Association on Area Agencies on Aging
Ohio Capitol Corporation for Housing
Ohio Centers for Independent Living – CILS
Ohio Conference of Community Development Organizations
Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice
Ohio Department of Development
Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services
Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities
Ohio Department of Transportation

Ohio Dietetic Association
Ohio Health Care Association
Ohio Council for Home Care
Ohio Hospital Association
Ohio Housing Authority Conference
Ohio Housing Finance Authority
Ohio Jewish Communities
Ohio Job and Family Services Directors Association
Ohio Office of Budget and Management
Ohio Olmstead Task Force
Ohio PATHS
Ohio Provider Resource Association
Ohio State University-Public Policy, Assistive Technology
Ohio United Way
Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities
RHC, Inc.
Sarah Care Adult Day Services
Service Employees International Union - SEIU 1199
Services for Independent Living
The Ability Center
The Success Group
Wright State University - School of Medicine

And, all consumers and families who have participated.

HOME CHOICE VISION STATEMENT

Ohioans who need long-term services and support . . .
Get services and supports they need in a timely manner
In settings they want, from whom they want
And if needs change, services and supports change accordingly.

STAY CONNECTED!

The **HOME Choice Bulletin** is a newsletter for anyone interested in Ohio's Money Follows the Person HOME Choice transition program.
Please contact Home_choice@medicaid.ohio.gov if you have comments, information to share, or would like to be added to our e-mail list.

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